

SCBA Annual General Meeting 2023

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Basingstoke Baptist Church on 6th November 2023.

Present: 56 Delegates and 17 Visitors from SCBA churches and organisations
6 Staff and 3 Trustees from SCBA

1. Clare Hooper opened the meeting in prayer and then handed over to Anthony Clarke who chaired the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence – 7 apologies had been received.
3. Minutes – The minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting, held on 7th November 2022 had been previously circulated. These were accepted as a correct record.

The scrutineers for the elections were proposed as Richard Lane and Sharon Gerry and agreed.

4. Summary Report of the Financial Accounts and Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2022

An SCBA Annual Review had been distributed on the day and can be found [here](#).

Anthony explained that SCBA's strapline is "Growing healthy churches in relationship for God's mission" and this was done by supporting fifteen mission and pioneer projects through Home Mission grants and housing and financial support.

We were able to join with our ministers and leaders at our two Leaders' Days and our Ministers & Leaders Conference in February.

1,293 people from our Association churches attended the SCBA-led safeguarding training.

We said goodbye to Joth Hunt and hello to Simon Gray, Jim Thomas and Keith Baldwin.

Anthony expressed his deepest thanks to all that the team do for the Association.

He also expressed his thanks to the trustees for the legal and strategic work that they do.

Andy Johnson then went on to give an overview of the Full Annual Accounts for 2022 which can be viewed [here](#).

The overall numbers are down in 2022 but we have received over £1million pounds over the last three years in closed churches, which we will continue to use on mission.

The expenditure has increased due to the increase in the RM Team.

The fixed assets have increased due to the purchase of the Chandlers Ford manse.

5. Update from the SCBA Regional Ministry Team

Inspire:

Clusters: Steve Barber explained that some clusters work well and some not so well. If you are in a cluster that is not working well, please speak to your RM. If your cluster is working well, please also remember those churches in your area without a minister and think about including them.

Connect:

Gin & Man Hatzaw (Burmese Mission Church): Man explained that they have a passion for evangelising on the streets of Cowley, Oxford. They currently meet on a Sunday afternoon at John Bunyan Baptist Church in Cowley. Jim prayed for Gin & Man.

Littlemore Baptist Church – a video was shown with members of the church explaining that they were calling a pioneer to work in the new housing estate being built in an area in need of God, rather than a new minister for the church.

Abbey Baptist Church – Simon Bird explained that since Covid, the congregation have been aging and dwindling, but they made the decision to open a Renew Wellbeing Café when Hong Kongers and other foreign speakers started coming, and then started coming to the Sunday service as well. They now have over 100 people attend the service, which is in English, with other translated service sheets. Steve prayer for Abbey and other churches where this is happening.

Resource

Kind & Gentle Space (engaging with the LGBTQ community): Clare explained that SCBA has held ten sessions with 70 ministers and leaders. We have also held sessions with 10 local churches so over 100 ministers and leaders have engaged with this.

The Learning Collective: This is in collaboration with Regent's Park College, SCBA and CBA, but because it is online, people have been able to join from across Baptists Together. There are now 40 participants meeting once a month in four venues across the two Associations.

Project Violet: this is a research project investigating women's experience in ministry. There are number of different phases which will conclude in "asks for change".

6. Election of the Members of the Steering & Strategy Group (Council)

Revd Matthew Huckle (1st term), Janet Quarry (1st term) and Revd Chris Walker (1st term) were all voted in as trustees on the Steering & Strategy Group.

Clare and Hayley thanked Ann Andrews, Simon Ford and Peter Brookes who were coming to the end of their terms as trustees. She also thanked Andy Johnson for his time as Association Treasurer but who is staying on as a trustee.

Prayers were said for all of the trustees.

Hayley pointed out that SCBA now does not have an Association Treasurer but this is being covered by the RMT, particularly Simon as the Operations Lead, but the role will be vacant for a short time.

7. No further items were raised, and the AGM was brought to a close.